

Message Text

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P 182146Z FEB 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL FLORENCE PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS STATE 038038

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, ITU, PFOR, SM

SUBJECT: ITU: MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OF SAN MARINO

REF: STATE 305155 (1976), FLORENCE 59 NOTAL, GENEVA 1134
NOTAL

1. SAN MARINO INFORMED AMCONSUL FLORENCE THAT IT HAS NO INDICATIONS OF ACTION BY 24 COUNTRIES REGARDING ITS ITU MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND REQUESTED FURTHER EFFORTS ON ITS BEHALF. MISSION GENEVA REPORTS THAT AS OF FEBRUARY 16 SAN MARINO HAD 86 AFFIRMATIVE VOTES, 6 MORE THAN NECESSARY AT THAT TIME (TWO-THIRDS OF THE 120 ITU MEMBERS WHICH HAVE RATIFIED THE 1973 TORREMOLINOS CONVENTION). SHOULD MORE MEMBERS RATIFY THE 1973 CONVENTION BY THE
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MARCH 1 DEADLINE FOR THE SAN MARINO VOTE, MORE AFFIRMATIVE VOTES WOULD BE REQUIRED (AS MANY AS 16 MORE IF ALL 152 MEMBERS RATIFIED BY MARCH 1). THE GENEVA JAPANESE MISSION NOTED THAT SAN MARINO HAD LEFT DEBTS OF OVER 22,000 SWISS FRANCS IN UNPAID DUES AT THE TIME IT RESIGNED ITS ITU MEMBERSHIP IN 1948.

2. THE DEPARTMENT IS LOATH TO GEAR UP A MAJOR EFFORT INVOLVING MISSIONS AND MINISTRIES IN MANY COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO DOUBLY ENSURE SAN MARINO'S SUCCESS. WE HAD EARLIER DECIDED TO URGE OTHERS AS APPROPRIATE TO VOTE FOR

SAN MARINO, MAINLY BY TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO MISSION GENEVA (WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE SCORES OF FOREIGN DELEGATIONS ATTENDING THE JUST CONCLUDED WORLD ADMINISTRATIVE RADIO CONFERENCE FOR THE BROADCASTING SERVICE).

3. ACTION REQUESTED:

--- A. FLORENCE: INFORM SAN MARINO OF ABOVE AS APPROPRIATE. FOLLOWING COMMENTS SHOULD ALSO BE PASSED:

SAN MARINO MAY WISH TO MONITOR ITU BALLOTING SITUATION AND INFORM US DURING THE COMING WEEK SHOULD ANY LAST MINUTE APPEALS BE ADVISABLE. SAN MARINO MIGHT ALSO CONSIDER OFFERING SPECIAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION EQUAL TO ANY SUMS OWED FROM 1948 PERIOD AS WAY TO ALLAY CONCERNS OF JAPANESE AND PERHAPS OTHERS.

--- B. GENEVA: MISSION SHOULD CONTINUE TO MONITOR BALLOTING SITUATION AND REPORT AS APPROPRIATE.
HARTMAN

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